BARBARA MAURER SELECTED GREENER OF THE MONTH

Evergreen Facilities Administrative Secretary Barbara Maurer took her first tour of the Library Building's skeletal beginnings over a trail of boards laid across dust that became Red Square. Since then, she's done everything from answering phones to producing consultant and construction contracts and the myriad of specifications they contain. She's been the foundation to the directors, architects and contractors who built Evergreen's campus. "She's absolutely the most competent assistant in both quantity and quality that I've had in 28 years of work in higher education. She's absolutely incredible," says Ken Jacob, director of Facilities. Chief Engineer Ron Walter says she knows more about the entire facilities operation than anyone. Secret Quacker Committee members hear Barb knows just about everything about the campus, and if she doesn't know, she'll find out fast. "She is one of the most positive-thinking people that I've ever met," says Walter. Barbara is a reputed poet and campus historian who remembers the "good ol' days" when most offices were tightly packed into "The Blue Building"—it's now the Child Care Center. Only one thing hasn't continually changed—the pace. "I have always been in the place where it's like Grand Central Station," she says. Plans were afoot to hire three more secretaries to support Facilities before the budget crunches of the 1970s. Maurer still holds down the front office alone. "I really like the hectic business," she says. "It's a sign of growth." Over the years, six directors have depended on her talents, and many people have enjoyed her poetic verses describing anything from efforts at controlling sparrow dropings around campus to justifying a capital maintenance budget to the Board of Trustees. "It helps to be a little crazy," she says.

Evergreeners in the News

Hand of Graffiti Grabbed—It's not easy to stop a vandal who uses spray paint to deface the campus. A Greener staffer and student spotted someone spraying unfriendly messages on a dorm wall, notified Security, and saw that the suspect was apprehended. Thanks and good work Greener!!

Swimmers Compete Among The Best—Thanks to support from Evergreen staff, students and alumni, eight swimmers traveled to Orlando, Florida to compete in the NAIA District I and II National Meet. Geoduck swimmers competed against the best in the country. "I'm really proud of these swimmers," says Coach Bruce Fletcher. The women's 400 medley relay placed 24th and the men's 400 freestyle relay team placed 20th. Max Gilpin swam on the men's relay and place 21st in the 400 individual medley event. There were about 35 entries in each event. The team finished the season with a record of four wins and two losses. "The whole team did a great job this year," says Fletcher. "We're already looking forward to next year, and we hope to compete in the nationals again."

It's one thing you never thought you'd miss—rain. But the spirits of Northwest sun lovers may be dampened as the downpour of news reports continues to herald "The Drought"—a lack of water for salmon runs, apples, lawns and clean cars. Unless it rains for 40 days and nights or so, water will be at a premium this summer.

So, you may wonder, how much water does it take to feed an Evergreen campus? About 52.5 million gallons a year, according to Chief Engineer Ron Walter. That's enough water to cover all 1,000 acres of the campus with one foot of water—and a couple hundred acres more. During an average summer, the campus consumes more than 6.5 million gallons of water a month. According to Walter, bathrooms and irrigation use the most water, each consuming roughly equal amounts. Next highest consumers are the cooling units for air conditioners, air compressors and other equipment. Sprinklers around Red Square pump between two and five gallons of water per minute, depending on whether you're watering ivy, planting beds or lawns. The recreation field sprinklers pump between eight and 10 gallons per minute. Evergreen's swimming pool holds 400,000 gallons of water, though most of it is recirculated. Including Housing, there are more than 470 toilets on campus, and they use an average one gallon per flush. There are more than 760 sinks, 39 drinking fountains and 242 showers at Evergreen. Most sinks and showers already have water restricting devices on them. The steam plant uses less water than any other building on campus.

But the drought shouldn't deal searing blows to the beauty of Evergreen's campus according to Maintenance Supervisor George Leago. "Governor Gardner has put in the plug on grounds watering," says Leago, referring to the Capitol Campus cut-back on water use by 25 percent. "They've turned off the ground fountain and have done some other symbolic things to let the state know it's a very serious problem," he says.

Beyond symbolism, Gardner is considering declaring the Yakima Valley a disaster area so federal money can...
help irrigate landforms in danger of drying.

But most of Evergreen's grounds are natural and aren't watered anyway, according to a "low maintenance system," just the opposite of the Capitol Campus with its abundance of lawns, flowering trees and planting beds. The foliage and underbrush here will survive the heat. The worst case scenario would find lawns around campus brown and the college's few planting beds wilted.

The project is constantly involved with conserving water. The city of Olympia has asked us to cut back on water for at least the last five years when water begins to run low," says Leago. "The grounds crew are pretty stingy with our water anyway." According to Utility Worker Supervisor Cliff Hepburn, the crew have been finding new ways to conserve for a long time.

"If there is a serious crisis, we'd have to let all areas around campus except the ball fields go dry," says Leago. The fields are specially built and represent an investment of hundreds of thousands of dollars, and they're used a lot. Other lawns and beds will recover relatively easily.

But there's hope for more conservation on the lawn watering front. The grounds crew is exploring the possibility of installing "hydro-sensors" that will detect areas that are not being watered, activating sprinklers only when the grass is thirsty. On the average, there will be eight to 10 hydro-sensors for every three acres, spread out in high and low spots, hopefully installed by summer. Not only will hydro-sensors conserve water, they'll make it easy to give grass exactly the one inch of water per week it needs for maximum health.

Right now, each sprinkler runs on an interval controlled by a timer. When it rains, it takes a grounds crew member about an hour to shut all the timers off at control spots between Lab I and the Recreation Pavilion.

Other water conservers include beauty bark, a mulch that keeps in moisture and kills weeds. Also, most watering is done at night to prevent losing up to 25 percent of water to evaporation. Grounds crews do irrigate parts of the Evergreen Parkway, but that area will be mulched heavily this spring in anticipation of low water supply.

Even if the level of rainfall we experienced on Wednesday and Thursday of spring break (March 23 and 24) continued through April 6, which is highly unlikely, only then would we reach "normal" rainfall for the year, according to Meteorologist Garoll Salmons of the National Weather Service station in Olympia. And some say even that much rain wouldn't cure the drought.

The absolute worst case drought scenario would call for creative solutions, according to Leago. "We would probably call on the campus community to voluntarily cut back on water," he says.

Leago is proud of the grounds crew which keeps Evergreen beautiful at a staffing level—calculated by people per acre—50 percent less than any campus in the state. We at the Newsletter salute this hard working crew and encourage all Greeners to follow their example of conserving water.

**PHASE II MEANS A GYM, NEW CLASSROOMS AND MORE**

Fences mark the spot. But much more than a new gym is in store for Evergreen with the raising of the College Recreation Center Phase II. For starters, new hardwood floors will replace the carpet from Phase I. More changes will be added from the Phase I project—changes that will be added from the Phase I project—changes that will enhance the user experience including: a moving curtain that will divide the gym into two large play spaces, negotiable wall that can accommodate different space needs, new shower facilities that will be able to test your fitness and have experts prescribe exercise and answer fitness questions. A sports medicine area will specialize in the prevention of and rehabilitation from injuries. Two multipurpose rooms add space for martial arts and dance. Locker rooms will be expanded and improved, and office space will be added.

The Phase II project began in 1970 as words and hopes on pages of the original campus Master Plan. The project was included in the 1975-81 six-year plan, but requests for funding from the legislature were turned down between 1979 and 1985. However, design funds were appropriated for the 1981-83 biennium and the legislature gave the green flag to build during the 1987 session.

By June of 1989, the projected completion date, Evergreen will no longer be Washington's only public four-year college without a large meeting space or gym.

**EVERGREEN EMPLOYEES CONTRIBUTE NEARLY $20,000 IN STATE COMBINED FUND DRIVE**

You could give to your choice of a cause or to charity in general during the Washington State Employee Combined Fund Drive—and give is what Evergreeners did between September 15 and October 31 of 1987. When all accounts were totaled, Greeners amassed $19,552, contributing to an overall $1.8 million raised for charity from 28 percent of all state employees across the state.

Washington is one of 35 states in the country that holds a combined fund drive. In the first year of the drive's existence, Washington employees have given $4.5 million. The number of people who contribute and how much they give expands each year.

Popular charities among Evergreen employees in 1987 included Thurston County Safeplace which received $3,514; United Way of Thurston County, $4,395; International Service Agencies, $2,640; Planned Parenthood of Thurston County, $4,371, and Big Brothers and Sisters of Thurston County, $1,051; The American Cancer Society, $371, and Big Brothers and Sisters of Thurston County, $100. Evergreeners gave $1,868 for the Fund Drive to distribute among a constituency of charities.

Congratulations Evergreen for your charitable spirit!